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MICHAEL L. ALEXANDER, STAFF DIRECTOR
SHANDON L. MELHORN, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

October 26, 2007

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
Office of the Governor
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

We are writing to express our unequivocal support for the State of California in this time of crisis, as it copes with wildfires that have devastated and threatened the state's southern region.

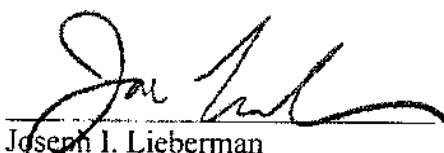
We recognize the gravity of California's situation and the tremendous work of first responders and emergency managers in the midst of this disaster. We also pledge to utilize our leadership roles on the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Subcommittee on Disaster Recovery, and the Subcommittee on State, Local, and Private Sector Preparedness to provide the necessary oversight for an effective federal response and recovery.

Please know that our committees are monitoring the response activities that have been undertaken by the Department of Homeland Security and its components, including the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the other federal agencies involved in the response coordinated by FEMA. In the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the Congress enacted significant reforms to improve our nation's ability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate against natural and man-made disasters. We are paying careful attention to ensure that these measures are implemented successfully and that the overall response is effective.

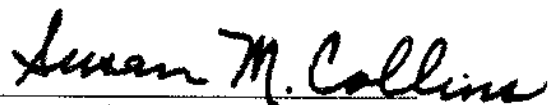
You should also be assured that we will keep a close eye on the recovery process. We are determined to do all that we can to help the federal government operate effectively throughout this devastating event.

We look forward to working with you throughout the response, recovery, rebuilding, and continued preparedness process. We wish each of you, and all the people of California, many blessings and a speedy recovery.

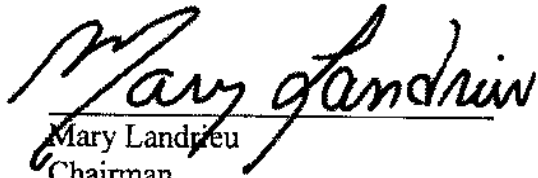
Sincerely,



Joseph I. Lieberman
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs



Susan M. Collins
Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs



Mary Landrau
Chairman

Subcommittee on Disaster Recovery



Ted Stevens

Ranking Member

Subcommittee on Disaster Recovery



Mark Pryor
Chairman

Subcommittee on State, Local, and
Private Sector Preparedness



John Sununu

Ranking Member

Subcommittee on State, Local, and
Private Sector Preparedness

cc: Senator Dianne Feinstein

cc: Senator Barbara Boxer

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The Honorable Barbara Boxer
United States Senator
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Boxer:

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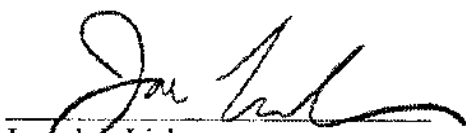
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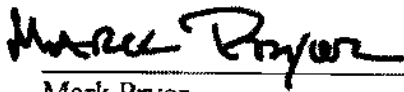
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Private Sector Preparedness



John Sununu
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on State, Local, and
Private Sector Preparedness

cc: Senator Dianne Feinstein
cc: Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger

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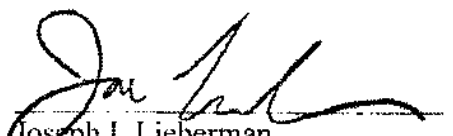
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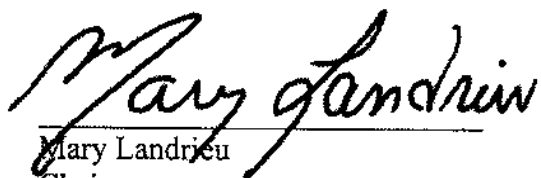
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